

Army/5FR (HSCA)

Col. William B. Guild  
Office of Ass't Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Department of the Army  
Washington, D.C. 20310

4/18/81

DAMI-CIS

Dear Colonel Guild,

Your letter of the 13 isn't really responsive and it is quite evasive. You do not explain how an Army record stops being an Army record when someone from the Congress asks to see it and you provide no authority ~~is~~ for withholding any such records after FOIA requests. Congress legislated the exemption and there is no exemption that authorizes any clerk or chairman to immunize any record of any executive agency.

With regard to my request of years ago, I did make it, if not of your office, which then did not have that responsibility. I was shocked at the response - that the Army had destroyed all its records pertaining to the assassination of a President.

If you can't find my inquiry, you should be able to find some of the letters to me. And if you can't find them, maybe you'll come upon the Jack Anderson column reporting what the Army wrote me.

DoD also may have copies. I believe it was involved.

I am not now able to make searches here.

Whatever accounts for these strange things, believe me there will be conspiracy theories woven around them for yours to come. Aside from the strict prohibition against destroying important historical papers, why in the world would the Army want to destroy its records pertaining to the assassination of a President and why would it want to make secret what previously was not secret, merely at Congressional request and in violation of the law?

Why ought reasonable people have doubts and suspicions?

You people make much trouble for yourselves and for no apparent purpose.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg